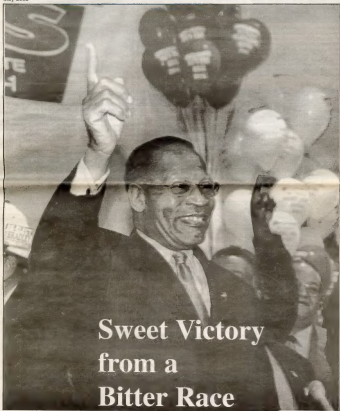


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CITY NEWS

Vol. 19 No 24
May 2002

The new perspective on city living



**Sweet Victory
from a
Bitter Race**



STANLEY COUCH—Stanley Couch (right) one of America's most influential independent thinking critics was the last speaker featured in New Jersey City University's Lecture Series. Couch autographed copies of two of his books, "Always in Peril" and "Notes of a Hanging Judge." Pictured from the left, William Roepel, coordinator of the lecture series; Dr. Anselm Lauffer NJCU Professor and John-Nelson NJCU vice president for university advancement.



WELCOME TO NEWARK—Mayor Sharrje James, (center), city and state officials join the International Youth Organization and the New Jersey Youth Corps of Mexico/AmeriCorps Environmental Crew after arriving a new "Welcome to Newark" mural located at the intersection of McCarter Highway and the off-ramp from eastbound I-280.



PROPOSED ARINA—George W. Zaffrin, NJ Sports and Exhibition Authority president and CEO (left), and Governor James E. McGreevey announce agreement with the Yachtworld organization to develop an arena in Newark.

Send your photos and information to

CITY NEWS

111 Mulberry St., Newark, NJ



PSEG AND MARCH OF DIMES TEAM UP—March of Dimes national ambassador Justin Washington recently visited PSEG, Newark. Walk-a-thon Teams in Essex County for the March of Dimes. Pictured are (top row left to right), are members of the PSEG Steering Committee, Newark: Maria Penick, John Anderson, VP, Maryann Galvano, Betty Crowe, Neil DeFraggi, Betty Gussell, Donna Brunner, Veronica Maloney, Carol Robles, and Renee Phylak. Bottom row, (left to right), Peter Kudlak, Justin Washington, March of Dimes New Jersey ambassador Jessica Lattardo, and Chris Fox.

Go Nets

Mayor Chris Bollwage and
Dan Sullivan of the Elizabeth Development Company

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**MANAGEMENT
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Johnnetta Cole takes the helm at Bennett College

By Courtney Goddard
Journalist in the North City
Journalist

GREENSBORO, N.C. (NNPA)—Johnnetta B. Cole, who lifted Atlanta's Spelman College from financial crisis to top national academic status and fund-raising records, has never been shy in the face of a challenge. Now she is coming out of retirement to take on a new one.

This summer Cole, 65, will enter as the 14th president of Bennett College, which in the last year has seen two presidents, declining student enrollment and a \$2 million budget deficit. Cole is endorsed by the work ethic.

"Only the challenges to help Bennett College soar to the heights of possibilities could have brought me out of retirement," she said. "Bennett College must be restored and we all have the responsibility to recruit, invest in and protect her."

Cole was named a Presidential Distinguished Professor of sociobiology, women's studies and African American Studies at Emory University in Atlanta in 1996, receiving her title.

Cole has received high accolades for her leadership and fund-raising efforts at Spelman, where she became the first African-American woman president in 1987. During her 16-year reign, she transformed a multi-million dollar fund-raising goal by \$13 million, an amount believed to be the highest ever raised by a historically Black college and



Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, University (HBCU). Under Cole's leadership, Spelman became the first HBCU to receive a No. 1 rating in the annual listing by U.S. News and World Report, which ranked it as the South's top liberal arts college.

Cole took over from Charles Fugitt, interim president. Althea Collins, who became Bennett's 13th president in July 2001, resigned from the position after seven months and was laudably credited for her management of the school. Consequently also came when it became known that Collins in a Muslim, Bennett is a Methodist college.

Bennett's board of trustees unanimously voted to hire Cole. "The board agreed that Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole is an ideal choice to help Bennett face our current challenges and fulfill our potential as a leading women's college," said Marcus B. Thero, chair of the Bennett College board of trustees.

Blacks at NASA settle \$3.75M bias suit

(Special to the NNPA)
GREENBELT, M.D. — NASA has agreed to pay a \$3.75 million settlement to black workers in a job bias suit.

More than 100 hundred black scientists and engineers will share the settlement, a lawsuit that alleged NASA denied them promotions.

The lawsuit was filed with the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission in 1995 by scientists and engineers at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland and the Wallops Island Flight Facility in Virginia.

The Goddard facility has admitted to no misconduct under the terms of the settle-

ment, however is agreed to look at all requests for promotion retroactively and create employee development programs and to promote diversity.

"We just looked at the issues and the fact that this process could go on for another 10 years, and said let's acknowledge our differences and move on," Dorothy Katz, an attorney for Goddard, said.

"We think it provides immediate relief economically, as well as providing a very good blueprint for how things should operate in the future, benefiting all employees at NASA Goddard," Nana Caplan, an attorney for the workers, said, rejecting at a recent press conference.

Jefferson descendants exclude Sally Hemings' kin

(Special to NNPA)—Descendants of Sally Hemings, a slave owned by Thomas Jefferson and reported to have borne several of his children, will not be welcomed into the organization Jefferson

relative or the ancestral gateway.

In a closed meeting, the Monticello Association voted to continue to restrict membership to Jefferson's descendants through his daughters Martha and Maria, thereby

excluding Hemings' descendants.

Scholars have concluded that DNA tests proving a male in Jefferson's family inherited Hemings' son Peter, most likely belonged to Jefferson's younger brother Randolph.

DNC chair blasts Bush on broken promises

Washington, D.C.—Democratic National Committee Chairman (DNC) Terry McAuliffe recently unveiled a video denouncing Republican promises on social security, education, health care, and the environment. McAuliffe underscored their continual

failure to deliver on these issues for all of America's working families.

"The President's inability to make the right choices is more apparent with policies that impact African Americans, where his efforts to reach out and transform Republicans

into a party of inclusion are coming up short," McAuliffe said.

Bush promised to fully fund the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, however his budget cuts the program by nearly 30 percent, McAuliffe explained.

Spotlight on Education

In a Great Public School...

Early childhood education is only the beginning!

Our Association believes that we must view our expectations for public education. We want to ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend a great public school.

What is a great public school?

This column is providing answers to this question. This week we explore one important element of what constitutes a great school.

Our nation's 50-year-old Head Start Program has proven that quality preschool education can have a big impact on children's learning. Giving children more attention in their earliest years pays big dividends in their educational progress.

That's why great public schools offer early childhood education.

Age six to five consider a critical time for brain development. Children who have the opportunity for appropriate, play-based learning when they're three and four years old do much better academically when they're 15 and 14.

Students who attend preschool are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to be assigned to special education classes, repeat a grade, or be arrested than children who do not, according to a study



For more information contact:

Jacqueline Gooding
President, Chicago Teachers Association

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For more information about how to help children succeed, go to www.njea.org and click on "For Parents."

Editorial Media out of bounds on James

We are pleased that voters agreed with our editorial stance that Mayor Sharp James deserved the opportunity to finish the "final four" years of his term for Newark.

Mr. James has achieved remarkable feats in Newark, and continues to go to Trenton and to Washington, D.C., in commerce, civic and simple, the resources needed to improve the quality of life for residents.

We deplore the radio commentators for implying that Newark residents were not intelligent enough to make pick the best candidate.

We equally abhor the caustic media's attacks on Mayor James while denying Commentator Cory Booker, whose "views" greatly outweigh his track record.

Never before has an entrenched, sitting elected official been undermined by the media as the manner Mr. James was attacked.

Mr. Booker did an excellent job of pulling all media events into a string in a day, but given the track record of the city and the lack of thoughtful media analysis during the campaign, we seriously question the objective dispassioning their biased coverage.

The media refused to change. The people of Newark looked at the improvements throughout the city and determined that the stakes were too high at this critical juncture to simply change players.

In the end, the people of Newark who have invested the most hope in Mayor James — the residents of the Central, South and West wards — showed that they are intelligent enough to critically weigh the political promises and media propaganda against the backdrop of consistent, tangible results he has delivered to date.

Poor need resources, not religious coercion



By Barbara Ranscher

The pending reauthorization of President Clinton's 1996 welfare bill has given President Bush a chance to preach principles in the poor, ironically, the "family values" he is advocating are not consistent

with his growing numbers of middle-class and wealthy Americans, including politicians. Bush's prescription for personal progress — church and a nuclear family arrangement — has also not safeguarded his own family from the ravages of drug and alcohol abuse. Still, Bush wants to push poor couples into marriage, says there is stay there and get religious institutions, as arbiters of resources, to assist the deal.

While millions of dollars will be poured into "marriage encouragement" programs, Bush has offered a very discouraging outlook for poor single moms. He has raised the bar on the required hours of work per week, from 30 to 40 in "workfare" programs and demanded that states increase the percentage of their poor

residents who work for welfare checks to 70 percent by the year 2007. In spite of his demand for greater hours of labor for welfare recipients, Bush has done nothing to increase funding for childcare, an enormous issue for single parents.

"The president is not offering any support to help them (poor parents) lift themselves and their families out of poverty," says Marian Wright Phelan, the president of the Children's Defense Fund, an advocacy group for children.

The real issues for struggling single mothers is that they need healthcare, decent paying jobs, affordable housing and good public transportation to get back and forth to work. I am sure that, like most other Americans, they prefer to allow

or reject their means without the government breathing down their necks.

Living poor in America is more hard work than a lot of Washington politicians will ever understand. The government's role is to provide support and services for citizens in need, not agonize for religious or moral convenience.

Barbara Ranscher is an assistant professor of African American studies and history at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her biography of civil-rights activist Ella Baker will be published soon by the University of North Carolina Press. She can be reached at pranscher@uic.edu or 312-996-1300.

Restore voting rights to probationees

By Jon Stuart

Connecticut carried a longstanding wrong law from that New Jersey still refuses to face. Connecticut passed a law that tells men and women who are on probation, "Vote on vote." New Jersey is among 28 states that have voting for all those classifications of offenders: those in jail, on probation or on parole.

In the fall of 2000, New Jersey Policy Perspective released a report calling for restoring voting rights to offenders.

We occasionally get phone calls from people who have completed probation and wonder if they can run. It is very gratifying to tell them they have the right to vote, but the fact that they don't know reveals another flaw in the system. Though the right to vote is automatically re-instored upon completion of offenders' obligations to the criminal justice system, they are not informed of this. Fortunately, the New Jersey League of the American Civil Liberties Union offers a "Reclaim Your Vote" how-to let that walk people through the process of registering to vote after

completing a sentence.

Denying the right to vote to offenders dates to the beginnings of this nation. New Jersey's original law, enacted in 1799, bars voting by anyone "convicted of burglary, treason, murder, piracy, arson, rape, sodomy, or any infamous crime against nature, larceny, or felony." In 1946 the state Supreme Court upheld disenfranchisement of offenders, saying that it helps to "maintain the purity of our elections."

At a time when democracy itself seems threatened by massive influxes of money and equally massive apathy on the part of the electorate, couldn't a compelling case be made that allowing offenders to vote would help teach citizenship and accountability there to become re-integrated to society?

Not considering the racially discriminatory history of disenfranchising offenders. According to The Sentencing Project, a Washington-based organization, America's disenfranchised offenders include 1.6 million African Americans men, or 13 percent.

A rank, a convicted felon to win people on probation the right to vote in Connecticut. State Representative Kenneth F. Gause in 1999 tackled a voting rights restoration bill onto a public financing measure, declaring denial of rights to be taxation without representation, since people in probation work and pay taxes. When that failed, Gause used the amendment to start a broad coalition of civil rights and election reform advocates.

After winning in one house of the legislature but losing in the other, the group unleashed a public education and outreach effort, including workshops and bill-

boards. Finally, last year, the legislature passed Gause's measure.

New it's time for New Jersey to catch up to Connecticut on

Malcolm X's 77th birthday & African Liberation Day

By Dr. Conrad W. Wright

The celebration of African Liberation Day (ALD) in the United States began in May 1972 in

Washington, D.C. with more than 60,000 people participating in this historic event. Since the extremely assassination of Malcolm X in 1965, movements across throughout the world have consistently commemorated his birthday. Malcolm X was born on May 19, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska.

In Chicago, the National Black United Front (NBUF) is sponsoring an African Liberation Day and Malcolm X Birthday Commemoration on Friday, May 17, 2002. This celebration will take place at Northbrook Illinois University's Center for Inner City Studies, located at 790 East Oakwood Boulevard. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the program will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker at this year's annual commemorative program will be Sister 190. Co-sponsors of the Chicago-based Kwanzaa Initiative, Sister 190 has been a long-time teacher, mentor, and activist in the Pan-Africanist Movement for over thirty years. Her topic for the evening is, "The Life of Malcolm X and his Significance to the Rapprochement Movement." Also, the program will feature special tributes to NBUF

Shirley is president of New Jersey Policy Perspective.

Announcements: Chaka Gant, Ernest James, Bruce Thornton, and Robert Sewell.

Malcolm X was a revolutionary who possessed a model of Black method that shook the world. When Malcolm X finally left the Nation of Islam, because of internal differences, he decided to take his last trip to Mecca, Africa. Malcolm spent five weeks in Africa, from April 13th to May 23rd, 1964.

This trip helped rekindle his links with the movement in nations "Africa for the Africans." Malcolm met many of the leaders and people of Africa. He visited South Africa, Egypt, Lebanon, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, Tanzania, Guinea, Morocco, and Algeria.

It was Malcolm's spirit that generated the Black Pride, Black Studies, and Black Power phases of the movement. So, on the one hand, Malcolm helped internationalize our struggle and on the other hand, he linked it up to the mass struggle and issues that faced our people in America. By taking this approach, Malcolm was able to provide a basis for the continued unbroken efforts to build worldwide African unity.

This unity is manifesting itself today around the Millions For Reparations Rally that will be held in Washington, D.C. on August 17, 2003.

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SBA reports increase in 2002 small biz loans

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) New Jersey District Office reported that New Jersey small business owners received 28 percent more loans from the agency during the first six months of its fiscal year 2002 (the period of October 1, 2001 through March 31, 2002), than during the first six months of the previous fiscal year.

Loans to African-American owned business saw a 28 percent decrease from last year, however.

SBA acting New Jersey District Director James A. Kacci, says the New Jersey District Office has approved 1,069 loans for a total of \$245.8 million during the first six months of fiscal year 2002. In comparison, the office approved 789 loans for \$204 million during the same time period in fiscal year 2001.

During the first half of fiscal year 2002, the SBA approved 218 loans to New Jersey women business owners for \$43.3 million; Asians received 204 loans for \$6.7 million; Hispanic business owners received 66 loans for \$13 million; and African-American small business owners received 36 loans for \$9 million.

Loan approvals to all minorities are also up over last

Robinson joins NJBIA's government affairs staff

Frank Robinson, former executive director of the Assembly Democratic Office, today joined the New Jersey Business & Industry Association's government affairs staff as vice president of government relations.

Robinson has worked in legislative and policy areas in the Assembly and has extensive experience in public relations and politics since 1979.

"Frank brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table. He is a superb addition to NJBIA," Executive Vice President Philip

Kinschler said. "His knowledge and insight of the legislative process will be invaluable in promoting pro-business legislation."

"I am delighted to join the NJBIA team," Robinson said. "I welcome the opportunity to pursue policies that will help improve our economy and create jobs."

Robinson worked for nine years in the Assembly Democratic Office, the last three as executive director, where he managed a full time staff of 28 with a \$3 million budget.

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THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK

My concern right now is to increase SBA lending to African-American entrepreneurs.

year's totals for the same time period. According to Kacci, New Jersey minority small business owners received a total of 313 loans for \$6.6 million. During the first six months of fiscal year 2001, minority business owners received 233 loans for \$58.1 million.

"I think we had an outstanding first-half," said Kacci. "My concern right now is to increase SBA lending to African-American entrepreneurs. It's all about reaching out and making sure we can get it turned around in the next six months."

"Historically, we generate about 57 percent of our loan approvals in the second half of the year. Based upon our first-half results, I am optimistic that we can accomplish our goal to set another new record for lending at the end of this year," Kacci added.

Clinton Hill partnership celebrates Weed and Seed site designation

NEWARK — The Clinton Hill Weed and Seed Partnership recently celebrated a milestone at Midland Motors Park when it was designated by the United States Department of Justice as an official Weed and Seed site.

"We're pleased to be a part of this important event. We have worked diligently over the past few years to 'weed out' the crime in our neighborhoods and 'seed' in positive programs to encourage our children to strive to be the best they can be," said Mayor Sharpe James, Mayor of Newark, to more than 200 people. We commend PS&AQ, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Community Agency Cooperation, The Bravo Group and everyone who was involved in this endeavor for their dedication."

Opportunity Weed and Seed,

a community based multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention and neighborhood orientation was established in 1991, by the U.S. Department of Justice. Today, the national program has more than 300 sites and is still growing.

The Weed and Seed strategy begins with "weeding out" of violent crime, drug dealing, and gang activity by law enforcement, then "seeding" with those social services, drug prevention, intervention and treatment programs, as well as neighborhood revitalization projects that revitalize and other stakeholders identify as vital. A successful transition from weeding to seeding depends on the community's involvement in — and commitment to — all aspects of ongoing crime prevention,

intervention and renewal.

In 1996, Al Koppke, President of PS&AQ commissioned his staff to develop an urban initiative for Newark's South Ward that, by combining forces with community leaders and residents, would reach thousands of the public, private, and non-profit sectors to effect change within the neighborhood.

During the first three years, assessments were performed; surveys, focus groups and interviews were conducted; and, financial aid and in-kind donations to address the immediate needs of the community's schools, non-profits and other entities. In the last three years, as the community empowered itself, programs and services such as Weed and Seed, have been introduced.



CLINTON HILL DESIGNATED WEED AND SEED SITE — The Clinton Hill Partnership recently celebrated its designation as an official Weed and Seed site at Midland Motors Park. Pictured (left to right) are former backing Champ, Joe Fowler; Tony Post, Executive Director of CAC; Newark Mayor Sharpe James; Gail Davis, Urban Development Manager at PS&AQ; Patricia Harris, Clinton Hill Weed and Seed Committee Chair; Hassan Williams, William X. Stedman, Newark Herald director; Evelyn Williams, South Ward resident; John R. Grino, CEO/Founder of The Bravo Group; and members of the William X. Stedman Marching Band.

City Briefs

Newark engineering revs up \$75 million in improvements

NEWARK — Street resurfacing, rehabilitation of bridges, better traffic control, guardrails, and the rebuilding of Route 21 are among the \$75 million in projects the Newark Department of Engineering is scheduling for the next fiscal year. The projects range from local street repair to the reconstruction of major arteries and bridges.

One of the highlights of the program, the Newark Greenway Network, will ultimately connect all the wards, parks, and major attractions in the city by pedestrian and bicycle routes that will be paved, signed, lighted, and landscaped. The project will ultimately link Newark's parks and neighborhoods with an 18.3-mile ribbon that connects with the Lenape Trail. A bicycle designated to run from Liberty Lake Park in Jersey City to the Delaware Water Gap Recreation Area.

Stanley, seniors, consumer advocates seek action on bill predatory lending bill

IRVINGTON — Antiochianus Craig A. Stanley (D-Irvington) recently learned with Irvington senior citizens and consumer advocates to encourage newly introduced legislation targeting predatory lending practices that can harm mostly senior citizens and when offenders use bankruptcy or out of their homes.

Stanley is a prime sponsor of the "Homeownership Security Act" (A-71), which was formally introduced earlier this month. Predatory loan issues and representatives from the American Association of Retired People and the ACRON housing advocacy group will also attend.

The predatory lending bill would prohibit a range of predatory practices, including "loan flipping" — the practice of refinancing existing loans without any benefit to the borrower, and advance the ability of predatory lending victims to recover their losses through lawsuits against the original loan brokers and subsequent assignees.

Plainfield participates in USDA summer food program

PLAINFIELD — Plainfield's participation in the annual Summer Food Service program of the Food and Nutrition Services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be administered by the Plainfield Public Schools for summer 2002 from June 24 through August 23, according to Al Penn at the Plainfield Recreation Division.

Under the program, children under the age of 18 are provided a free lunch and snack in accordance with a menu approved by the State. Services are provided regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap.

New NJCRI HIV health facility includes neighborhood services



NEWARK — At the groundbreaking of NJCRI's new Newark HIV health facility Mayor Sharpe James enthusiastically proclaimed his support for the project and promised \$800,000 in financial assistance to help construct the building.

With over 200 people at the groundbreaking, Cady Cusack-Croft, Director of Newark's Department of Health and Human Services described how the Health Department would occupy 5,000 square feet in NJCRI's new 30,000 square foot facility. This would allow the Health Department to bring additional services into this Central Ward neighborhood.

NJCRI's Executive Director, Wilbert P. Orr, in his address to those present, announced that

Assemblyman William Payne (D) and Assemblywoman Eusebia Alvarez (R) had recently co-sponsored Assembly Bill A-2178 in the Legislature requesting a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$1,900,000 to assist in the construction of the new \$6 million facility.

Mayor James presented a Mayor's Proclamation and Congratulations. Gayle Greenfield-Isaacs and Denise Williams presented a Council Resolution supporting the project.

Architects, from Hilbar were present to display and discuss their renderings of the new four-story building. Included in the design of this HIV facility is an atrium space where there will be a memorial for those who have died from

AIDS and a tree of hope for those who are living with the illness.

NJCRI provides the most comprehensive range of HIV specific, prevention and supportive services in New Jersey and is the largest HIV service unit in the metropolitan New York / New Jersey area. Since 1988 NJCRI has provided services to over 21,000 New Jersey residents. The 1.2 acres of land on which the building will be constructed was sold to NJCRI under the nominal fee status with the unanimous approval of the Municipal Council and Mayor Sharpe James. To enroll in our many services and clinical trials call 973-485-3444.

Sweet victory follows bitter race



SWEET VICTORY—From left to right, Rev. Al Sharpton, Deputy Mayor Calvin West and Newark Mayor Sharpe James cheered by supporters on election night.

James was tough, tight contest against Booker

NEWARK — The pundits spoke. The politicians spoke. The press spoke.

They all said loudly and repeatedly that it was time for incumbent Mayor Sharpe James, 49, to step down. Others compared the James-Booker race of 2001 to 1988 when James challenged and defeated Kenneth Gibson's bid for a sixth term. James maintained that there was no comparison between Newark today and the old Newark.

The race was expensive, dirty and received unprecedented national attention. The candidates were interviewed on the major networks, the two, namely, Al Sharpton, first Jackson and Congressman Jesse Jackson canvassed neighborhoods for James, Booker, J., even called in federal observers on election day, which signaled some of the election.

"We've never had anyone come and hang in the federal prisons," said Patricia Bey, a Newark activist. "The last time federal monitors, FBI, CIA were in here, we did not call them in. That was 1967 when the elections happened in Newark." The federal observers reported minor incidents in a city known for tough politics.

When the polls closed the voters had spoken—especially in the heavily African-American South (6,044), Central (8,358) and West (5,941) wards where recent elections turned out. James appeared into a 1998 record, garnering approximately 25,543 votes compared to Booker's 14,969. James held the dual title of mayor and state senator, making him one

of the most powerful politicians in New Jersey.

East Orange mayor Robert Browner said the election was about Newark. "The people see the progress that has been taking place... he had the grassroots movement with him... Sharpe paid his dues, his opponent did not," Browner said. "Newark don't like the last somebody's coming in from the outside." He also criticized the media for "trying to wrap him [Booker] up in a package and sell him."

A two-year Newark resident

"The people see the progress that has been taking place... he had the grassroots movement with him... Sharpe paid his dues, his opponent did not. Newarkers don't like the fact somebody's coming in from the outside."

with one term on the City Council, Booker received endorsements from major area newspapers. City News endorsed incumbent James.

Booker, a Rhodes scholar, also attracted heavy notable financial support. He campaigned on the theme that it was time for a change. James campaigned in the urban theme that he was the "real deal."

On election day Booker carried the predominantly white and Hispanic East (4,211) and mostly Hispanic North (5,878) wards, but lost his own Central ward (5,478). Booker says he will run in 2006.

James, who has been in Newark politics for 32 years, was backed by heavy hitters such as Senator Joe Cusumano, Governor James K. McGreevey,

Congressman Donald Payne, State Senator Ronald Rice, municipal workers and labor unions.

"I'm thrilled," Essex County Executive candidate Donald DiVincenzo shouted after the votes were tallied. "Here's a guy who worked 28 years for the city of Newark, the last 16 years as mayor. He saved this city several, and he deserves to be re-elected." DiVincenzo added, "Sharpe is going to take this city to another level."

During his acceptance speech, James, who tilted the scale for McGreevey's nomination in the Democratic gubernatorial candidate last year, thanked "the great Governor" for his logistical support. He also thanked and introduced his wife and three sons.

The mayor then said he gave "the glory to God" and "glory to the citizens of Newark, who made their voices heard tonight." A few minutes earlier campaign worker pruned closely with Rev. Sharpton who introduced James. Sharpton called out the victory was won, "the old fashioned way."

What his supporters booed Booker James said: "Tomorrow we are going to come together and continue to build our city. This election was not about Sharpe James, it was about the future of Newark. This election was about continuing the progress in the city of Newark, and tomorrow we go forth as a family." At that point he said "My house is your home. Family in Spanish, growing more yells and applause from the mostly black, but nevertheless multicultural audience.

"Today the whole world came to the city of Newark, and the new and wonderful first hand the progress we have made."

James said into the glare of several television station cameras.

"We have changed Newark for the better, and much more progress is expected. Tonight I accept the challenge to lead Newark for most progress," he said ending his speech. James says this is his "final four years."

Bill's (James) the one who started this progress, and he should see his own vision through," said East Orange Councilwoman Lori Maddox, whose city is impacted by what occurs in Newark.



East Orange Mayor, Robert Browner



From left to right, State Police Superintendent Santiago, Sheriff Armando Portales, and Newark Police Chief Ambrose



From left to right, Al Peltre, On. Office of Economic Dev., Armando Portales Essex County Sheriff, and Salasio Davis, East Orange Police Officer.

Facts about African Americans and strokes

May is Stroke Awareness Month: Are you at risk for a stroke?

NORTH BRUNSWICK—In the amount of time it takes you to perform a simple evening task such as brushing your teeth or buttoning your shirt, at least one person in the United States will have experienced a stroke. Everyday tasks like these can be a challenge for the 4.6 million stroke survivors alive today in the United States.

According to the American

Stroke Association (ASA), a division of the American Heart Association, on average someone has a stroke every 33 seconds. Stroke is New Jersey's number three cause of death and a leading cause of serious disability. Twenty-eight percent of the people who suffer a stroke in a given year are under age 65, and for African Americans the risks are greater, according to the

American Stroke Association.

Young African Americans have a two-to-three-fold greater risk of ischemic stroke (caused by a clogged blood vessel) compared to Caucasians. African American men and women are more likely to die of stroke, according to an ASA report. The death rates for strokes (based on 1998 data) were 57.6 for Caucasians males and 66.4 for African-American males; and 56.6 for Caucasian females and 73.5 for African-American females. For non-Hispanic African Americans age 20 and older,

30.7 percent of men and 36.6 percent of women have high blood pressure, a leading cause of stroke.

As many as 30 percent of all deaths in hypertensive African-American men and 28 percent of all deaths in hypertensive African-American women may be attributed to high blood pressure.

Compared with Caucasians, African Americans develop high blood pressure at an earlier age, and their average blood pressure is much higher. As a result, African Americans have a 1.5 times

greater rate of fatal stroke.

Warning signs of stroke include sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause.

For more information call 1-800-473-7662 or visit the American Stroke Association website at www.strokeassociation.org.

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Cities combat high mortality rates for black infants

By Annika C. Corrigan
Staff Writer/Columnist

WASHINGTON—Nicole Deen, a 26-year-old, Dallas, Texas, woman is confident that her unborn child will be delivered healthy and that she is getting good prenatal care.

A participant in the Dallas Healthy Start program that works with pregnant women to ensure that their babies do not die before their first birthday, Deen attends her doctor visits and receives any medications that she needs.

"I think that this is going to be a good program for my baby. I don't have any prenatal care before I signed up for this program," says Deen, whose baby is due Aug. 3. She has two other children, ages 3 and 4.

Programs like this become very important as signs of a recently reduced state of infant death rates in the 10 largest U.S. cities. The study shows a median infant death rate of 13.9 deaths per 1,000 births for African-American babies, compared to 6.4 for Caucasians and 5.3 for Hispanics. Black infants in those cities were 1.4 to 4.8 times more likely to die than white infants in their first year of life, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control, which examined linkages in cities with populations over 250,000 from 1991 to 1997.

Cities with higher black average infant mortality rates, such as Washington, D.C., Memphis, Tennessee, and Detroit, Michigan, tended to have a larger proportion of

black births. They also had more very low or moderately low birth-weight babies, more teenage pregnancies, fewer women who received prenatal care and more mental depression.

"What we found first with the data was something that we have known for years, this study just shows us that it is this close at the city level," says Scott Sandhu, a medical epidemiologist with the Center for Disease Control. "This is a problem that we will need to focus on and some people might think that this problem has been solved, but we still need to do some work in this area."

Sandhu said that social, emotional, and biological factors contributed to the high numbers of black babies dying.

Is your workplace making you sick?

MAPS—When people get sick it is easy to blame a change in the weather, but weather may only be contributing to the real problem. The warmth and humidity characteristic of the spring and summer seasons create a perfect environment of proliferation of microorganisms, including toxic mold. Toxic mold is becoming a threat but widespread problem in buildings across the United States and a result of flooding, water damage, careless contracting or renovations, leaking pipes, poor ventilation systems or poor construction.

While mold has always been around, toxic mold has recently been identified as a clear health threat attacking people through ventilation systems, behind walls and in

pipes, prying on the innocent while they are at work or school or just relaxing at home on a hot summer day. Researchers and doctors are only now beginning to understand the health consequences of this living enemy.

It may be hard to know if you are a victim of toxic mold since many of the ailments associated with mold exposure are also symptomatic of other common illnesses. Mold can provoke allergic reactions, watery eyes. Some throat headaches, fatigue and in more severe cases, memory loss even death. In some cases, people suffer for months and go from doctor to doctor seeking cures for their mysterious ailments.

However doctors are also just becoming aware of the

dangers associated with toxic mold exposure. So if you suspect that you are suffering from exposure to toxic mold spores, it is advisable that you consult a physician and educate yourself. Your friends, your family and your coworkers on the possibilities of risk, the warnings and the solutions.

"Even though it can not be killed toxic mold must be contained and removed in order as it is discovered," says Burton Field President of LV an environmental services firm. "Just like with any contamination, from lead to asbestos, it is essential that experts be brought in to locate and control the problem and to ensure the health and safety of building residents."

Black suicide: Breaking the deadly silence

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

In March, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued its second report in the past four years on teen suicides. It again warned that many young blacks tend to kill themselves and are self-destructive at a far faster rate than young white males.

Though CDC researchers gave no reason for the suicidal self-care, some suicide prevention experts speculated that the jump in suicides was in large part a product of middle-class life.

In other words, as more blacks climb the social and economic ladder, the same pressures and frustrations that come with the chase for better careers, higher incomes, and newer lifestyles rack them, as their white middle-class counterparts. This explanation is shaky. The CDC did not break down suicides among blacks by income status.

In Chicago, where some mental health professionals report that the suicide rate among young blacks exceeds that of whites, most of those who take their lives are lower-income blacks. The city is plagued by chronic problems of high unemployment, drug and alcohol use, family breakdown, prison rates, and the steadily rising access and availability of guns.

These problems are compounded by the poverty of mental health centers, treatment facilities and trained professionals in poor neighborhoods.

Many school counselors and teachers believe that young black males are inherently violent, and prone to crime. They

often ignore the glaring signs of at-risk behavior such as uncontrolled rage, angry behavior, or aggression exhibited by many young blacks, or don't recognize that this "acting out" behavior frequently masks acute feelings of depression, hopelessness, alienation, and poor self-esteem. The end result is many young blacks fail to receive the counseling and treatment that could save lives.

Another unmet and overlooked reason for the rise in black suicides is the refusal of many blacks to accept the fact that their children can and do kill themselves. They often ignore their signs of chronic depression, rage, self-destructive acts, or ways in which they threaten to take their lives and refuse to seek professional help. The right blacks in the suicide crisis could have the same deadly consequence as the persistent refusal of many blacks to admit that HIV/AIDS was a serious threat to them.

Even as the CDC issued reports after reports warning that blacks now accounted for nearly half of the AIDS cases in America, black leaders, community activists, and religious leaders shook their heads in disbelief.

Black leaders and parents must face the bitter truth that suicide is not a desperate act reserved solely for pariahs. Desperate, alienated white suburban youth. Many young blacks are also taking their lives. It's no disgrace to admit that truth.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of *The Trap in Black and Black*, and a columnist. Visit his news and opinion website: theheartbeatsupport.com

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield educates members on high blood pressure

NEWARK.—To help manage and identify with hypertension/high blood pressure, lower their blood pressure, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey (Horizon BCBSNJ) will begin mailing quarterly newsletters on high blood pressure management. According to American Heart Association's 2002 Heart and Stroke Statistical Update booklet, about 35 million Americans suffered from hypertension from 1998 to 1999.

The first Horizon BCBSNJ mailing will inform members that they will be receiving four newsletters throughout the year with information on how to lower their high blood pressure. The

mailing is scheduled for Spring 2002.

"The purpose of these newsletters is to educate and reinforce the importance and benefits of good eating habits, exercise, stress reduction, lifestyle modifications and medication compliance in lowering high blood pressure," said Dr. David Banduchi, senior medical director of quality management of Horizon BCBSNJ.

Members will be advised to contact a Quality Management Hotline with any questions they may have about the mailing. In addition to member outreach, Horizon BCBSNJ will notify primary care physicians about the quarterly hypertension mailing.

State Bar Foundation sponsors free wills and estate planning seminars

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The New Jersey State Bar Foundation will present a free public seminar on wills and estate planning on Thursday, June 6, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the New Jersey Law Center.

Topics of discussion will include wills and trusts, gift and tax planning, New Jersey probate procedures, power of attorney, living wills, federal estate tax and New Jersey substance law. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation.

Speakers will include Jill

Peterson, an attorney with the law firm of Finley, Hardin, Kipp & Smith in Morrisonsville and Gloria Oertley, a counsel to the law firm of Garabito, Rosenkern, Rinaldi & Caputo in Woodfield.

Prior-to-concerns bar practice in estate planning and administration. As a member of the New Jersey State and Morris County bar associations, the Estate Planning Council of Northern New Jersey and a graduate of Columbia University, Peterson volunteers her time with the Barred Women's Legal

Advocacy Program. She has authored several articles on the topic of estate planning.

Garity, a graduate of Seton Hall University and St. John's University School of Law, received a master of law degree from New York University. He practices law in New York and New Jersey and formerly served as an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service.

Advance registration for the seminars is required. For more information call 1-800-PRESENT-LAW.



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Patti Austin pays tribute to Ella Fitzgerald



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Continuing a career that has made her one of the most beloved artists and performers the world over, with her smooth, soothing overall, Patti Austin pays tribute to the legendary Ella Fitzgerald.

For Ella, on Playboy Jazz introduced via Concord Records, Inc.) features the WDR Big Band with Gregg Field and was recorded live in concert on June 26, 2001 at Koin Community Hall in Koin, Germany, with every hole available.

To prepare for this project this special two month listening study in Ella's catalog and was easily reminded of the singer's sheer artistry. "Once I started preparing for the album, people would float into my life that had worked with her and the theme that I heard constantly was that she was possibly the best. When I realized was that, once she set that stage, she was like her life depended on it. Her vocal lines were so fine, she had such incredible technique, such merit," Patti proclaimed.

The Life of Henry 'Box' Brown

Myriad of The Life of Henry 'Box' Brown
By Henry Brown
Introduction by Richard Newman
Foreword by Henry Louis Gates
Oxford University Press
178 pp.

Book Review by Kate Williams

It was not my fortune to be long under my mother's care, but I still possess a vivid recollection of her efforts. She would take me upon her knee and say to me: As you are loved and are happy from off the face of the earth, so are the children of slaves kept away from them by the hands of cruel masters. Her voice would tremble, choked with emotion as she finally pressed me to her burning bosom, as if to leave me from the crowded cabin, or to find in the experience of maternal being while she still retained possession of her child. I was then young, but I well recollect the sadness of her countenance and her mournful soundness of her words as they impressed themselves upon my youthful mind, never to be forgotten.

Excerpt from slave Henry Brown's autobiography.

Henry "Box" Brown got his nickname in 1845 after making a dramatic escape from slavery by hiding himself inside a 200-pound crate. With the help of a friend and an abolitionist, Henry shipped himself by rail from Richmond, Virginia to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, he enjoyed a coarse

beef salisbury and found himself much as desired as a speaker in anti-slavery circles. However, Brown soon had to make his way to England, fearful of becoming a twenty seven's house. The fugitive slave Act dictated that he still belonged to his master, even if standing in a free state. So, Box had to leave America before he found himself back in bonds. Henry escaped slaves received help in preserving oral accounts of the horrors of slavery from sympathetic whites. Narrative of the Life of Henry Box Brown was published overseas in 1851, but has never been published in the United States for obvious political reasons.

Although Princeton Professor Cornel West recognizes Brown's incredible feat as "one of the great creative acts in the struggle for black freedom," his review proves to be ultimately far more significant than his forgotten fugitive. For, again and again this most scorching book reminds the loss of his loved ones.

From this perspective, slaves were clearly always people, not property, and complete with the full panoply of feelings and emotions readily ascribed to whites. Therefore, Henry Brown's fugitive legacy should not be that he made his way North or a hero, but how he bested leading words exactly: not America's system of chattel slavery as an irreversibly evil form of emotional death, the sacrosanct Constitution notwithstanding.

Kam's Capsules:

By Kate Williams

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Enough (PG-13) for sensuality, profanity and domestic violence) J-Lo as truck-stop waitress who marries Hoffman on y to and up a belated housewife and on the run from the cops, her 3-year-old kid in tow. Too much is not enough. Enough a enough.

Inconceivable (R) for arguable violence and oral nudity) Al Pacino as a collective investigating the murder of a

teenager in Christopher Nolan (Memento) remake of complicated, Norwegian crime thriller.

Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron (G) for generic, outstretched. An Indian (Chad) in the Western with a nameless Matt Damon as the voice of an anthropomorphic horse that can never be tamed by the cowboy.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

CG (R) for nudity and language) Roman Coppola (Frances Ford's son) makes

Preview that make choosing a film fun

his directorial debut with the movie within a movie about an American filmmaker in Paris in 1969 who gets involved with the sexy star of his sex-film, set way off in the year 2000.

The Importance of Being Earnest (PG) for mild sensuality) Another adaptation of the Oscar Wilde play about the love lives of a couple of Victorian gentles sharing the same aristocrat. With Rupert Everett, Colin Firth, Dame Judi Dench and Reese Witherspoon.

It's your day, CHILL.

Coca-Cola

Calendar

Community

MAY, JUNE, JULY

Conford—Union County College will conduct a Career Decision Effect Spain to Union County residents. For more info call (908) 799-7025.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Rene Brunwicki—A Mother Daughter Program will be held at Saint Peter's University. Hosts: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 294-0299.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Blumenfeld—The Lions Club will be sponsoring the Alan Zerkow Clinic in front of the Southeast High School at 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 555-9141.

Newark—The Good Center of New Jersey will host a community Mass event at Blessed Sacrament Church from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 479-4739.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Plimfield—The Plimfield Board of Education will conduct a business meeting at the Cook School at 6:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Newark—The Board of New Jersey will hold a community 5000 run at 525 South Avenue from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. For more info call (973) 679-4702.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

New Brunswick—The National Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will host the Anne's Recipe Baby Shower from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 44-NOWH.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

F. Robert—The Newark NAACP will host their Annual Scholarship Luncheon at 17:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 624-6400.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

C. Eileen—The Downtown Edison Business Development Group will host a 50th Anniversary Party Summer Series from 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. at First Street and Clifton Avenue.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

After Brunch—A Father Son Program will be held at Saint Peter's University. Hosts: from 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 294-0299.

The United Youth Council will be sponsoring a major fundraising campaign that is inviting youth and adults in its many activities and programs. For more info call (973) 287-8880 or e-mail ELANIE@UJC.org.

Business

FRIDAY, MAY 10

New Brunswick—The New Jersey Office of Commerce and the U.S. Small Business Administration will sponsor their 8th annual New Jersey Small Business Conference. For more info call (908) 989-7888 or visit www.nybizcenter.com.

Hoboken—New Jersey State League of Municipalities will host an education event on the Access to Records Amendment from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 989-0287 ext 22.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Jersey City—New Jersey City University will host a Meeting and Growing your Own Business Workshop from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For more info call (201) 338-2156.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Newark—GOORE presents a seminar Starting and Managing Your Own Business at 2 Gateway Center from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. For more info call (973) 454-3552.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

New Brunswick—The New Jersey State Bar Foundation offers a free 50000 seminar on will and estate planning at the New Jersey Law Center from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. For more info call 1-800-FRUELLA.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, JUNE 13

Conford—Union County College offers Financial Management Strategies course from 7:20 p.m. - 9:20 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

Long Island City—The Regional Alliance for Black Contractors offers a marketing growth course from 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more info call (718) 479-8887.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10/12, 19

Conford—Union County College offers a 3-part course in WPCD 301 from 7:30 p.m. - 10:20 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

Jersey City—New Jersey City University's Small Business Development Center offers a workshop on Expanding Existing Business in English and in Spanish. For more info call (201) 200-2156.

MONDAY, JUNE 17 - AUGUST 5

Conford—Union County College offers an Evening the Competitive Edge with Customer Service course from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 19

Conford—Union County College

offers a Computers & Services course from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

Jersey City—New Jersey City University's Small Business Development Center will offer a workshop on Expanding Existing Business. For more info call (201) 338-2156.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26 - AUGUST 15

Conford—Union County College offers a Management Skills For Supervisors course from 8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

Conford—Union County College offers a course in the Great American Debt Opportunity from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

Conford—Union County College offers a course Make Your Resume Work For You from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 - JULY 24

Conford—Union County College offers a course in the Great American Debt Opportunity from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-7000.

Heartbeat

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Jersey City—The National Coalition of 100 Black Women the New Jersey chapter presents a Majority Women's Health Forum from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel, 508 19th Ave. Admission is free. For more info call (973) 242-6466.

Artz

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Newark—The Newark Museum will host Gallery Talks at 12:30, 1:30, and 2:30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-7-MUSEUM.

Newark—The Newark Symphony Orchestra will perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

Newark—Artz High School will have their spring vocal concert at 7:30 p.m. For more info call (973) 733-7152.

Newark—The New Jersey Historical Society will host an Antique Road show from 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more info call (973) 598-8509.

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Newark—The New Community

Arts Program will host Jazz at the Henry with the Philadelphia Arts Ensemble from 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 627-7648.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Newark—The Newark Museum will host a Grandparents Day from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For more info call 1-800-7-MUSEUM.

Newark—The New Jersey Historical Society will host a walking tour and discussion from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more info call (973) 598-8509.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Newark—The Newark Museum will host a Family Drop In Arts Workshops at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. For more info call 1-800-7-MUSEUM.

Summit—Concord Singers will hold their spring concert at the Calvary Presbyterian Church at 4:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 773-5239.

Cape May—The McAlister Center for the Arts will host Great Ladies of the Blues Concert at 8:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 584-9204.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Newark—The Newark Public Library presents "The Color Story Live" for children. The 4 to 5 Grade is at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 753-9510.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

New York—The Museum of the City of New York will host a guided tour of "The Winter of Gourd Zero" from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more info call (212) 455-0881.

MONDAY, MAY 27

New York—The Museum of the City of New York will host a walking tour of New York City at 1:00 p.m. For more info call (212) 455-0881.

FRIDAY, MAY 30

Cape May—The McAlister Arts Center will host the New York Chamber Ensemble at 8:00 p.m. For more info call (908) 584-9204.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Newark—The New Community Arts Program will host its Spring Jazz For Youth by Youth at 12:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 639-7662.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6 - AUGUST 15

Brooklyn—The Brooklyn Academy of Music will host live performances at downtown Brooklyn from 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. For more info call (718) 628-4320.

MONDAY, JUNE 10

Newark—The Newark Museum will host a lecture and lunch series at 12:30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-7-MUSEUM.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26 - AUGUST 7

Newark—The Newark Museum will host a lecture and lunch series at 12:30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-7-MUSEUM.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 - OCTOBER 26

New York—The Museum of the City of New York will host an exhibit The Last Days of Pompeii. For more info call (212) 534-1972.

FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, JUNE 7-9

Newark—Alison Glavin Theatre Works will present stage play Miss Grief's Day. For more info call (973) 624-1586.

Religion

REMEMBERING IN MAY

North Edison—The Mount Zion Presbyterian Church will host a "Mourning Glory" from 7:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. For more info call (908) 799-4993.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15-17

North Edison—The Mt. Zion U.P.W. Church will host their Spring Festival at 7:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-4993.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Newark—The Newark Branch of the NAACP will host a Gospel Fest at 4:00 p.m. at St. Louis A.M.E. Church. For more info call (973) 624-6400.

Jersey—The Youth and Young Adult Ministers of the Archdiocese of Newark host the 7th Annual St. Catharine State Hour Rally at Six Flags Great Escape. For more info call (908) 773-6239.

SUNDAY, MAY 19-MAY 24

Conrad—The Newark Church of Christ at 834 South 14th Street will conduct their Spring Gospel Meeting with Debbie Raymond from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. For more info call (973) 376-6382.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Hoff Edition—The Mt. Zion J.W. Baptist Church will host a Gospel Bonanza at 4:00 p.m. For more info call (973) 622-1287.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19-21

North Edison—The Mt. Zion J.W. Baptist Church will conduct their Rev. Wm. J. Christie at 7:30 p.m. For more info call (908) 799-4993.

Barnes loses Paterson, six mayoral incumbents victorious

Five other mayors survived challenges in the election, winning reelection in Tomsen, Bayonne, Weehawken, Long Branch, and in the mega race in Newark, where Sharpe James captured a historical fifth term.

Despite his door to door appeal for city voters to select him onto his fourth term, Paterson Mayor Martin "Marty" Barnes, under federal indictment for corruption, was defeated in Tuesday's election by local Councilman Jim "Judy" Tomsen.

Barnes recently defeated Tomsen, a Paterson councilman for 12 years, in a special 1997 election to fill the remainder of ex-Mayor William Pascel's term, when Pascel was elected to Congress. Barnes, the city's first African American mayor, was reelected four years ago. More than one half of the Paterson population is Hispanic, a demographic that Barnes capitalized on.

Barnes, a 53-year-old Republican, was indicted by federal prosecutors in January on charges that include extortion, accepting bribes for city contracts, diverting campaign funds for personal use, filing false tax returns and obstructing justice. He has pleaded innocent and faces trial in several weeks.

Five other mayors survived challenges in the election. The incumbents won reelection in Tomsen, Bayonne, Weehawken, Long Branch and the mega race

in Newark, where Sharpe James captured a historical fifth term. Another indicted mayor, Irvington's Sara Bost declined to seek a third term, and was replaced by Councilwoman Wynne Smith in a mayoral race. Smith had announced plans to challenge Bost prior to her indictment. Bost has pleaded innocent.

Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, the first black mayor of the state's capital, won a fourth term in a landslide against Councilwoman Oliver "Buckey" Luggins. Luggins, also black, is a former executive director of the Trenton Housing Authority.

In nearby Bayonne Mayor Joseph V. Doti, Incumbent, the city's first incumbent mayor in 12 years, defeating former Mayor Richard Radzinski, whose four-year term ended in 1994. Doti, who is also a state assemblyman from Hudson County, received 58 percent mandate. Political newcomer and local construction contractor Antonio Lucio, came in third.

In another Hudson County race, Weehawken Mayor Richard Turner and four council members slammed the Weehawken Initiative New slate by more than a 54 margin.

Mayor Adam Schneider won his fourth term, in Long Branch, beating back challenger Avery Gause, a school board member.

Council president Smith wins Irvington's mayoral

By Seymour "Ken" Rowman

IRVINGTON — Wynne Smith, Irvington's council president, was his bid for mayor Tuesday night by 131 votes, barely one percent, in a four-way election. Smith, the first candidate to announce he was seeking the office, defeated relatively unknown state Assemblyman Craig Stanley.

Stanley, a close companion, received support and campaign help from his uncle, U.S. Representative Donald Payne and New Jersey state Assemblyman William Payne, and well-known U.S. Representative Maxine Waters of California. Smith's other com-

petition was David Lyons, who came in third place and Sandra Blum, who came in last with less than 700 votes.

"We took on a U.S. congressman," Smith said. "We took on a U.S. congressman's family who political privilege they tried to add to Irvington." Smith said referring to Stanley's well known political family.

Also winners for the four-year council terms were Smith's "Team Irvington" running mates: Dr. Beryl Stanley and LeRoy Jones along with Andrea McElroy, an ex-school board member. Smith told supporters at his campaign headquarters at Clinton and Washington avenues, "My best job we've

going to win this thing, we're clearing victory." And victory he cleared.

Smith will assume office July 1. He replaced Mayor Sam Irlin who has been Irvington's mayor since July of 1994. But, who was plagued by controversy which in effect, didn't seek reelection after she was indicted by a federal grand jury on April 4, on political corruption charges. Irlin has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Smith says his supports re-elected Mayor Sharpe James and looks forward to working with him for the betterment of Irvington.

Junius Williams presents White Paper on Education Reform in New Jersey: Enforcement Issues With Abbott v. Burke

"The Abbott decisions do far less justice to children than Brown v. Board of Education did to African Americans"

EAST ORANGE: Attorney Junius Williams, Chairman of the Education Law Center has charged that that state and provisions are not being made in New Jersey to uphold the dictates of the Abbott school district case.

"The case of Abbott v. Burke and its progenies, Robinson v. Cahill has been used by lawyers and judges in New Jersey to be the paramount New Jersey court decision in this country," Williams said explaining that the Robinson case was brought on behalf of urban school children, charging

that the state's system for funding schools discriminated against poorer districts and created disparities in education.

"Twenty years later, the Abbott case made virtually the same charge, using the veil to act to wipe out funding inequality between suburban and urban school districts, and added to it is to institute supplemental programs designed to wipe out disadvantages as identified while school districts."

Williams presents his research on Education Reform in New Jersey: Enforcement Issues with Abbott v. Burke on May 21 at the Black United Front Headquarters located at 132 South Harrison Street. The Black United Front of New Jersey, along with The New

Jersey Public Policy Research Institute will host the presentation at the second installment of its "specialties" series on "The State of Black New Jersey."

In his research Williams deconstructs the evolution of the Abbott case and presents it as a landmark hope in the study of the quest for change within the political context of New Jersey. He also analyzes the tangible unmet needs surrounding the case that still remain in 2002, twenty years after the Court's final order were put forth, and presents recommendations of how collaborative negotiations between involved governmental and education department parties can result in positive change.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!! HOT OFF THE PRESS!!



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Temple B'nai Abraham infuses Central Ward bank's deposits

NEWARK City National Bank of New Jersey (CNB) has joined forces with Temple B'nai Abraham to help provide new economic support for the only banking facility servicing Newark's Central Ward. Louis Prosser, President and CEO of CNB, and Rabbi Clifford Kalish of Temple B'nai Abraham recently announced project, "Working Together for a Better Newark," which seeks to encourage depositary support for CNB's Springfield Avenue Branch.

"CNB has a long history of working with faith-based organizations, so joining forces with Temple B'nai Abraham is a natural extension of this longstanding community responsibility of not waging competition to serve the community," said Prosser.

"According to recent census figures, more than 50 percent of households in this area earned less than \$20,000, making it difficult for residents to secure loans or even establish viable savings accounts... community residents will have immediate access to responsive financial services previously unavailable to them."

Rabbi Kalish added, "Central Newark is where Temple B'nai Abraham stood for many decades. We are pleased to have the opportunity to help reinvigorate this area that holds a special place in our hearts. There are many ways in which our congregational family seeks to help."

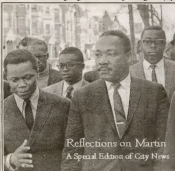
Rabbi Kalish continued, "Whether \$100 or \$100,000, opening a Community Devel-

opment Account at City National Bank is a chance to have a powerful and positive impact on the everyday lives of the less fortunate. Thus far, many congregants have supported this initiative, and I am pleased to note that participation continues to grow." The deposits by Temple members will generate capital resources and expand CNB's ability to fund home mortgages, personal loans, new housing developments and the growth of small businesses within the Central Ward community.

"CNB will continue to be the catalyst for providing quality banking services to underserved communities. We look forward to working together for a better Newark," said Prosser.

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FEBRUARY 2002



Newark consortium, business outreach center partner with EDA mentoring program

NEWARK, N.J. The Small Business Mentoring Program, sponsored by the New Jersey Development Authority for Small Businesses, Minority and Women's Enterprises (GNBDC), took a major step toward improving the success rate for fledgling northern New Jersey entrepreneurs when the Greater Newark Business Development Consortium (GNBDC) and the Business Outreach Center (BOC) formally renewed their partnership with the Authority to provide mentoring services in a metropolitan region.

A ceremony marking the partnership and the fourth location in the NJDA's statewide Small Business Mentoring Program, was recently held at GNBDC headquarters, here. The program also recognized the partnership of organizations helping to fund the program, including the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA), which manages programs for its affiliate, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, J.P. Morgan Chase, First Union National Bank and PSEG. The GNBDC and BOC will support businesses in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Monmouth,

Ocean, Passaic and Sussex counties. They join the Cooperative Business Assistance Corporation of Camden, the Trenton Business Assistance Corporation and the Union County Economic Development Corporation in providing mentoring services to all New Jersey's 21 counties.

"The GNBDC's longstanding excellent reputation in business assistance and trade leading, together with the BOC Network's extensive experience in connecting small businesses in the region with resources and networking opportunities, will create a winning combination for area business owners, downtown Newark and surrounding communities," said EDA Executive Director Ceres S. Frazier.

Frazier explained that the program not only offers services to entrepreneurs in times of need, but it is proactive in providing business assistance who meet regularly with business owners to identify business management issues that need to be addressed before they become problems. Mentors can also link business owners to resources to improve their chances of success.



Jason Lewis, owner of Newark Lumber and Hardware

Mentors can tailor their services to individual needs, helping small business owners cope with the day-to-day pressures of business operations. They may offer potential solutions to accounting and marketing dilemmas or assist in financial needs assessment and loan package preparation.

The GNBDC, for example, recently helped Jason Lewis, new owner of Newark Lumber and Hardware, by designing a program that recommended alternative accounting methods and assessed his profitability patterns and banking needs, said GNBDC Executive Director David Moses.

Curious Observations

New that the election is over, we wonder: Was that something on Route 280 the sound of the rioters leaving Newark on their carpets, with their bags, after the results were tallied?

When I withdrew \$100 from my bank of 30 years, I need three forms of identification, including two legal photos. I was remarkably casual down for a \$5,000 business loan. I wonder: What type of identification did JP Morgan Chase, FleetBoston Financial, and PNC bank loan officers get from the customers who defaulted them of \$680 each one?

Secretary of State Regina L. Thomas abruptly withdrew a \$25,000 deposit put up by the state to sponsor a hip-hop literacy tour in Trenton. I wonder: Why are growing numbers of industrial African Americans embracing a music culture that has more negative performers than positive performers, and not knowing a primarily destructive image for impressionable children who have few constructive outlets. How much money can I get to promote a suit for learning?

The solemn blue suits were present on stage at City Borker's gathering at Bonita in lockdown on Tuesday night until the final results came in around 10:15. I wonder: Were these the same blue suits who bumped past me as they hurried into the Robert Taft hotel around 10:48 p.m. for the Sharpe James victory party?

Send us your curious observations?

Go Nets

E'Port Pride Day



The Elizabethport Community Pride Day

Saturday, May 18, 2002

10:00 am Parade Kick-off/12:00 pm Jackson Park Festivities

The parade will start at the Memorial Waterfront Park on Elizabeth Avenue & Front Street and will conclude at Jackson Park

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